



Robbery Awareness & Prevention Tips

Below are some suggested prevention measures you can take to reduce the likelihood of becoming a robbery victim:

- **Awareness:** Be aware of your surroundings and who is near you. Scan your surroundings and make eye contact with people to acknowledge their presence. This will help reduce the likelihood of being taken by surprise.
- **Be very aware when waiting for and/or exiting a bus.** Many of the attacks have occurred as a person was waiting at a bus shelter or soon after he/she exited a bus.
- **Minimize the amount of items you carry on your person.** Take just what you need for what you are doing (e.g., *a* credit card, *a* check, ID, a little cash) rather than every piece of ID, every credit card, all your cash, etc.
- **Leave valuable jewelry items secure at home.** If you do wear valuable jewelry items while out and about, such as expensive necklaces, cover them with a scarf or wear them beneath your coat, blouse or shirt. Otherwise, leave expensive watches, necklaces and rings at home.
- **Carry your keys and ID separately.** If someone gets your keys and ID, they may go to your home or business and access that location with the keys.
- **Always keep positive control over your items.** Do not set your handbag/purse/briefcase, etc. down and walk away from it.
- If your handbag has a shoulder strap, **carry the bag so the strap is across your body with the handbag to the front of your body.** It is much more in your control than if you let it dangle at your side.
- **Do not struggle with the robber:** You increase your chances of injury. Get a good look at the suspect and get the best description you can. Get away from the person and quickly as possible and call 911 as soon as possible.

If you have any information that may be helpful in identifying and apprehending robbery suspects, please contact the Seattle Police Department Robbery Unit, at (206) 684-5535, or the South Precinct Burglary/Theft Unit, at (206) 386-1855.

For more information about personal safety and crime prevention measures, please contact Mark Solomon, South Precinct Crime Prevention Coordinator, at (206) 386-9766, or mark.solomon@seattle.gov.

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The Seattle Police Department South Precinct
306.386.1850
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